

**CALENDAR ITEM
C09**

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02/07/17
PRC 6817.1
K. Connor

GENERAL LEASE – RECREATIONAL USE

APPLICANT:

Dolores D. Ruetz, as Trustee of the Ruetz 1999 Trust dated February 10, 1999

PROPOSED LEASE:

AREA, LAND TYPE, AND LOCATION:

Sovereign land in Lake Tahoe, adjacent to 3858 North Lake Boulevard,
near Carnelian Bay, Placer County.

AUTHORIZED USE:

Continued use and maintenance of an existing pier and two mooring
buoys.

LEASE TERM:

10 years beginning January 1, 2017.

CONSIDERATION:

\$874 per year, with an annual Consumer Price Index adjustment.

SPECIFIC LEASE PROVISIONS:

1. Liability insurance in an amount no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
2. Lessee shall not store any personal items or construct any improvements in the Public Trust easement that may impair the public uses.
3. If Lessee does not have valid Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) buoy permits, Lessee is required to obtain such authorization for the mooring buoys within two years after the adoption of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Lake Tahoe Shorezone Ordinance Amendments and approval of the amended ordinances. If Lessee is unable to obtain such

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authorization within the time limit, they may be required to remove the buoys.

4. Lessee expressly acknowledges and agrees that issuance of a lease does not substitute for, or provide preference in, obtaining authorizations from TRPA or any other regulatory agency for the improvements authorized by the Commission.

STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION:

Authority:

Public Resources Code sections 6005, 6216, 6301, 6501.1, and 6503.5; California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 2000, subdivision (b).

Public Trust and State's Best Interests Analysis:

On May 10, 2007, the Commission authorized a Recreational Pier Lease for the existing pier and two mooring buoys to John A. Ruetz and Dolores D. Ruetz, as Trustees of the Ruetz 1999 Trust dated February 10, 1999 ([Calendar Item C11, May 10, 2007](#)). The lease expired on December 31, 2016. The Applicant is now applying for a General Lease – Recreational Use for the continued use and maintenance of the existing pier and two mooring buoys.

The pier and buoys facilitate recreational boating. Recreational boating is a water-dependent use that is generally consistent with the common law Public Trust Doctrine. The California Legislature has identified private recreational boating facilities as an authorized use of Public Trust land (Pub. Resources Code, § 6503.5).

The subject facilities have existed for many years at this location. The pier is built on pilings and the immediate area of the existing pier is slightly sloped and grassy with large boulders. The topography and the location of upland structures provide access for the pier and little space for other Public Trust activities. Depending on the water level, the construction of the pier allows the public to walk or navigate under or around the pier. The two buoys are located directly lakeward of the upland property and occupy a relatively small area of the lake.

The proposed lease does not alienate the State's fee simple interest or permanently impair public rights. The lease is limited to a 10-year term, does not grant the lessee exclusive rights to the lease premises, and reserves an easement to the public for Public Trust-consistent uses. Upon

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termination of the lease, the lessee may be required to remove all improvements from State land.

The proposed lease requires the lessee to insure the lease premises and indemnify the State for any liability incurred as a result of the lessee's activities thereon. The lease also requires the payment of annual rent to compensate the people of the State for the occupation of the public land involved. For all the reasons above, Commission staff believes the issuance of this lease is consistent with the common law Public Trust Doctrine and in the best interests of the State.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. The prior lessee was John A. Ruetz and Dolores D. Ruetz, as Trustees of the Ruetz 1999 Trust dated February 10, 1999. Staff was recently informed that John A. Ruetz died in 2011. Dolores D. Ruetz is the surviving trustee. The proposed action recognizes the surviving trustee and the correct name of the trust.
2. This action is consistent with Strategy 1.1 of the Commission's Strategic Plan to deliver the highest levels of public health and safety in the protection, preservation, and responsible economic use of the lands and resources under the Commission's jurisdiction and Strategy 1.3 to promote, expand, and enhance appropriate public use and access to and along the State's inland and coastal waterways.
3. The staff recommends that the Commission find that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 1, Existing Facilities; California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 2905, subdivision (a)(2).

Authority: Public Resources Code section 21084 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15300 and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 2905.

4. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to Public Resources Code section 6370 et seq., but such activity will not affect those significant lands. Based upon staff's consultation with the persons nominating such lands and through the CEQA review process, it is staff's opinion that the project, as proposed, is consistent with its use classification.

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EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description
- B. Site and Location Map

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the Commission:

CEQA FINDING:

Find that the activity is exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061 as a categorically exempt project, Class 1, Existing Facilities; California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 2905, subdivision (a)(2).

PUBLIC TRUST AND STATE'S BEST INTERESTS:

Find that the proposed lease will not substantially impair the public rights to navigation and fishing or substantially interfere with Public Trust needs and values at this location, at this time, or for the foreseeable term of the lease, and is consistent with the common law Public Trust Doctrine, and is in the best interests of the State.

SIGNIFICANT LANDS INVENTORY FINDING:

Find that this activity is consistent with the use classification designated by the Commission for the land pursuant to Public Resources Code section 6370 et seq.

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorize issuance of a General Lease – Recreational Use to Dolores D. Ruetz, as Trustee of the Ruetz 1999 Trust dated February 10, 1999, beginning January 1, 2017, for a term of 10 years, for the continued use and maintenance of an existing pier and two mooring buoys as described in Exhibit A and shown on Exhibit B (for reference purposes only) attached and by this reference made a part hereof; annual rent in the amount of \$874, with an annual Consumer Price Index adjustment; and liability insurance in an amount no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

EXHIBIT A

PRC 6817.1

LAND DESCRIPTION

Three (3) parcels of submerged land situate in the bed of Lake Tahoe, lying adjacent to Lot 3 fractional Section 28, Township 16 North, Range 17 East, MDBM., as shown on Official Government Township Plat approved November 10, 1865 County of Placer, State of California, and more particularly described as follows:

PARCEL 1 – PIER

All those lands underlying an existing pier and two (2) catwalks adjacent to that parcel described in that Grant Deed to Living Trust recorded February 16, 1999 in Document 99-0013186 of Official Records of said County.

TOGETHER WITH any applicable impact area(s).

EXCEPTING THEREFROM any portion(s) lying landward of elevation 6223 feet LTD on the shoreline of said Lake Tahoe.

PARCELS 2 & 3 – BUOYS

Two (2) circular parcels of land, each being 50 feet in diameter, underlying two (2) existing buoys lying adjacent to said parcel.

Accompanying plat is hereby made part of this description

END OF DESCRIPTION

Prepared October 18, 2016 by the California State Lands Commission Boundary Unit.



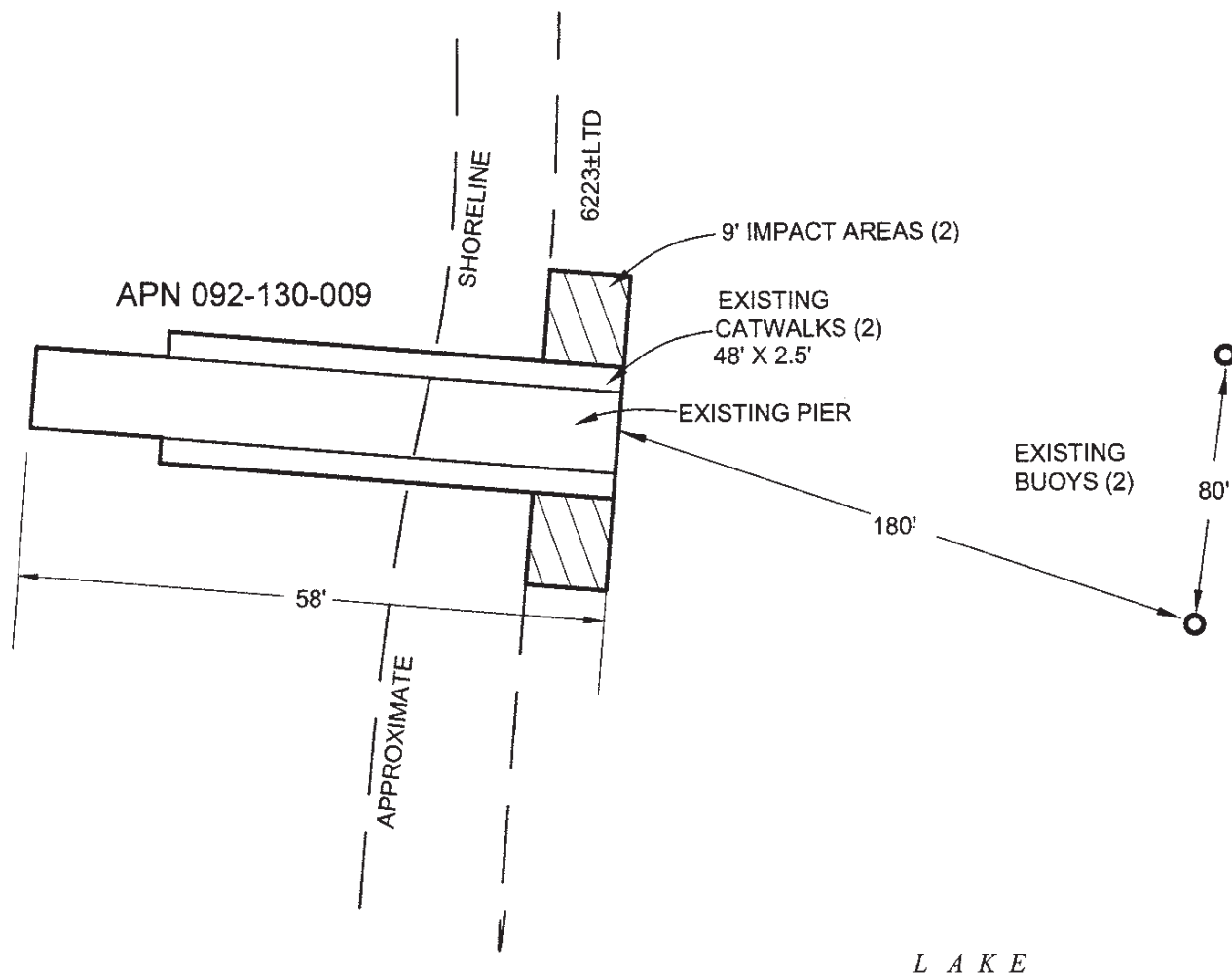


EXHIBIT A

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LAND DESCRIPTION PLAT
PRC 6817.1, RUETZ TRUST
PLACER COUNTY

CALIFORNIA STATE
LANDS COMMISSION

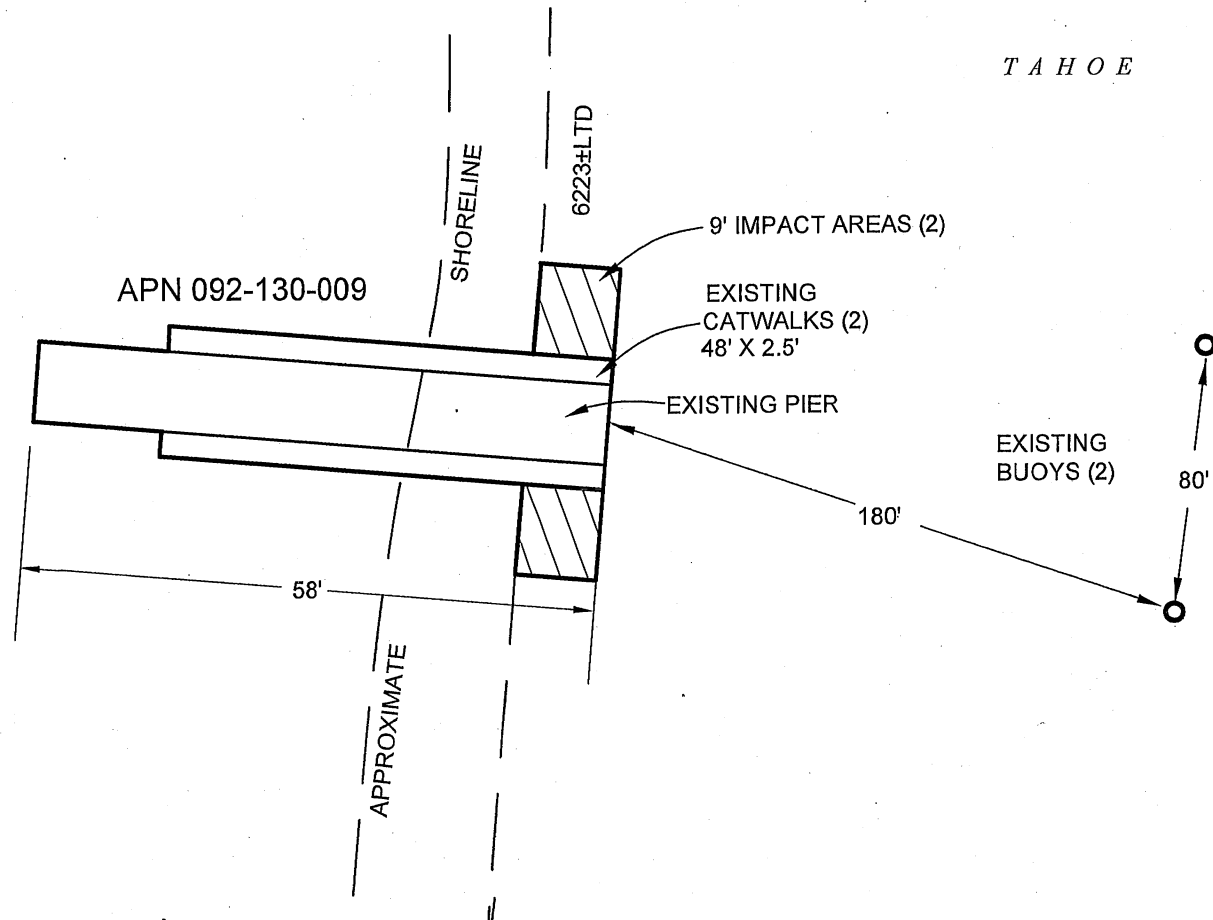


NO SCALE

SITE

L A K E

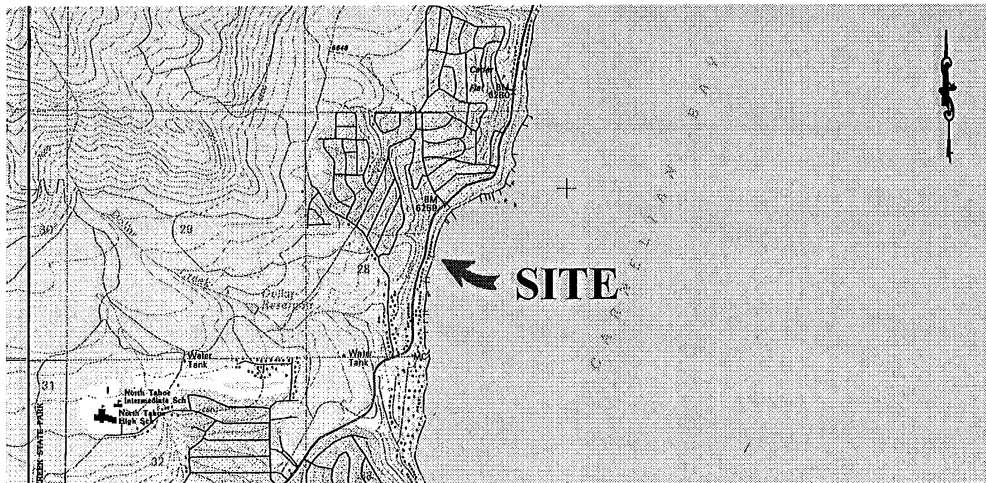
T A H O E



3858 NORTH LAKE BLVD., NEAR CARNELIAN BAY

NO SCALE

LOCATION

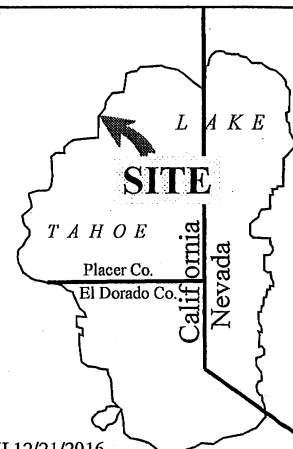


MAP SOURCE: USGS QUAD

This Exhibit is solely for purposes of generally defining the lease premises, is based on unverified information provided by the Lessee or other parties and is not intended to be, nor shall it be construed as, a waiver or limitation of any State interest in the subject or any other property.

Exhibit B

PRC 6817.1
RUETZ TRUST
APN 092-130-009
GENERAL LEASE -
RECREATIONAL USE
PLACER COUNTY



MJJ 12/21/2016